



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 16, 2012

By: Sgt. Edward Eagerton, 134th Public Affairs Detachment

Alaska National Guard medic – an inspiration of selflessness

ULAANBAATAR, Mongolia – At a medical clinic set up in an elementary school in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Pfc. Chantal Miller, of Anchorage, is one of many Alaska Guardsmen who have traveled to this vast country to take part in Khaan Quest 12.

Miller and multinational service members are conducting a Medical Humanitarian Civic Action (HCA) Outreach Project. The HCA portion of Khaan Quest was designed to provide an exchange of tactics, techniques and procedures, the exchange of medical services, and community outreach for the U.S. and Mongolian medical teams as they treat underserved communities.

Miller, a medic in the Alaska Army National Guard Medical Detachment, completed her sophomore year at University of Alaska Anchorage, and has applied to finish her pre-medical degree at Columbia University in her pursuit of becoming a trauma surgeon. Afterwards, her plan is to continue her education in the Army doctor program.

She shared these aspirations with Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh during his visit to the medical clinic. McHugh toured the clinic, met with the multinational medical team and greeted the Mongolian people there for treatment.

“They [the Army] have one of the best trauma programs,” remarked Miller, “so I’m really looking forward to that. I’d like to be a trauma surgeon in the Army because they give back.”

Giving back is the perfect phrase to describe Miller’s selfless personality. When she returned from her training as an Army medic, she applied for a job with the Alaska National Guard Honor Guard.

“We honor the veterans,” Miller explained. “We are the firing party at the service, we fold the flag, present it to the next of kin and serve as the, color guard. It’s such an honorable job to have. It is the family’s last view of the military.”

At the medical clinic in Ulaanbaatar, she explains with enthusiasm her desire to help the people of the community.

"I think it's a great thing – what we do here," Miller said. "It's just great that we can help them out. Whether it's a tooth that needs to be pulled or abdominal pain, they're getting really good care here. I know it means a lot to them, and it also means a lot to us. It's a good feeling too."

Khaan Quest is a regularly scheduled, multinational exercise sponsored by the U.S. Army, Pacific and hosted annually by the Mongolian Armed Forces. Khaan Quest 12 is the latest in a continuing series of exercises designed to promote regional peace and security. This exercise marks the tenth anniversary of this regionally significant training event.

###

Cutline:

120814-Z-MW427-213

Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh talks with Pfc. Chantal Miller, a medic from Anchorage in the Alaska Army National Guard Medical Detachment, at the medical clinic during his visit of the various Khaan Quest 12 exercise locations in and around Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Aug. 14. Khaan Quest is a regularly scheduled, multinational exercise sponsored by the U.S. Army, Pacific and hosted annually by the Mongolian Armed Forces. Photo: Sgt. Edward Eagerton, 134th Public Affairs Detachment, Alaska Army National Guard